



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/041,726	01/07/2002	Katsumi Okina	81754.0069	5232
26021	7590	04/03/2006	EXAMINER	
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P. 500 S. GRAND AVENUE SUITE 1900 LOS ANGELES, CA 90071-2611			PHUNKULH, BOB A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2616	

DATE MAILED: 04/03/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

32

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/041,726	<b>Applicant(s)</b> OKINA, KATSUMI	
	<b>Examiner</b> Bob A. Phunkulh	<b>Art Unit</b> 2616	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 1/7/2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07 January 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/12/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by *Cohen* et al. (US 6,233,659), hereinafter *Cohen*.

Regarding claims 1, 8,, 15, 22, 29, and 36. *Cohen* discloses an arbiter device for a multi-port memory equipped with a first port and a second port, comprising:

an identical address detection device, wherein the identical address detection device determines whether an input address to the first port and an input address to the second port are identical (the signal decoders for decoding the signals from the first input and second inputs and generating a first control signal and a second control signal; a control circuit is responsive to the first and second systems for identifying which of the systems is entitled to access to the array in the event both systems seek access to the same address at the same time, see col. 2 lines 1-17);

an operation stopping device, wherein the operation stopping device stops operation of the second port of the multi-port memory when the identical address detection device determines that the input address to the first port and the input address

Art Unit: 2616

to the second port are identical (a control circuit is responsive to the first and second systems for identifying which of the systems is entitled to access to the array in the event both systems seek access to the same address at the same time, see col. 2 lines 1-17); and

a selector device, wherein the selector device selects data and outputs data on the first port of the multi-port memory when the identical address detection device determines that the input address to the first port and the input address to the second port are identical (the control circuit is responsive to the first and second systems for identifying which of the systems is entitled to access to the array in the event both systems seek access to the same address at the same time, see col. 2 lines 1-17).

Regarding claims 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, and 37, *Cohen* discloses the selector device selects data and outputs data on the second port of the multi-port memory when the identical address detection device determines that the input address to the first port and the input address to the second port are not identical (see col. 5 lines 3-26).

Regarding claims 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, and 38, *Cohen* discloses the identical address detection device is responsive to at least one of the input address to the first port and the input address to the second port (the control circuit compares the addresses received from the input ports, see col. 2 lines 1-17).

Regarding claims 4, 11, 18, 25, 32, and 39, *Cohen* discloses the identical address detection device is adapted to generate an identical address detection signal if the input address to the first port and the input address to the second port are identical (the signal decoders for decoding the signals from the first input and second input ports and generating a first control signal and a second control signal; a control circuit is responsive to the first and second systems for identifying which of the systems is entitled to access to the array in the event both systems seek access to the same address at the same time, see col. 2 lines 1-17).

Regarding claims 5, 12, 19, 26, 33, and 40, *Cohen* discloses the selector device is responsive to at least one of a data output signal of the first port, a data output signal of the second port, and a buffer output signal (see col. 5 lines 3-26).

Regarding claims 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, and 41, *Cohen* discloses the selector device is adapted to generate a data output signal (the circuit 41 generate data output signal, see figure 2 and col. 3 lines 46-49).

Regarding claims 7, 14, 21, 28, 35, and 42, *Cohen* disclose the arbiter device arbitrates between accesses to the first port and the second port (the control circuit arbitrates between accesses to the first system or the second system, see col. 2 lines 1-17 and col. 5 lines 3-26).

***Conclusion***

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

The following address mail to be delivered by the United States Postal Service (USPS) only:

Mail Stop \_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**or faxed to:**

(703) 872-9306, (for formal communications intended for entry)

**Or:**

The following address mail to be delivered by other delivery services (Federal Express (Fed Ex), UPS, DHL, Laser, Action, Purolater, Hand Delivery, etc.) as follow:

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
220 20<sup>th</sup> Street South  
Customer Window, Mail Stop \_\_\_\_\_  
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03  
Arlington, VA 22202.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Bob A. Phunkulh** whose telephone number is **(571) 272-3083**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Tuesday from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. (first week of the bi-week) and Monday-Friday (for second week of the bi-week).

Art Unit: 2616

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor **Wellington Chin**, can be reach on **(571) 272-3134**. The fax phone number for this group is **(571) 273-8300**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Bob A. Phunkulh  
Primary Examiner  
TC 2600  
Technology Division 2616  
March 29, 2006

**BOB PHUNKULH**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**